

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:665

ANSWERED ON:12.05.2005

HAGUE CONVENTION FOR INTER-COUNTRY ADOPTION

Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Hague convention was signed for the protection of children and cooperation for inter-country adoption;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to implement the convention to safeguard the country's children placed in inter-country adoption; and
- (c) the extent to which India will benefit through much closer cooperation with the central authorities of the other countries?

Answer

MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (SMT MEIRA KUMAR)

(a), (b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a), (b) and (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 665 for 12th May, 2005 by Shri Ravi Prakash Verma regarding 'HAGUE CONVENTION FOR INTER-COUNTRY ADOPTION'

(a) & b) The Convention was signed by India. The procedural streamlining as laid down under the Hague Convention with respect to adoption through recognised placement agencies, enlisted foreign agencies and foreign Government bodies/Departments was already in place. However, the additional requirements like designating a central authority to discharge the duties imposed by the Convention was fulfilled by designating Central Adoption Resource Authority for this purpose. Circulars/guidelines have also been issued from time to time to carry forward the spirit of the convention and have the requisite safeguards in place.

(c) The main benefits that will arise are as under:

(i) An adoption certified by the competent authority of this country as having been made in accordance with the Convention shall be recognised by operation of law in the other contracting States.

(ii) The recognition of an adoption in the receiving country will include recognition of the legal parent-child relationship between the child and his or her adoptive parents; and parental responsibility of the adoptive parents for the child.

(iii) There would be (a) greater transparency and (b) reliability of reports received from foreign government bodies and agencies because of procedural commonality.